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CAMPAIGN 1990: THE REAPPORTIONMENT WARS. The battle between Demos and Republicans over two REAPPORTIONMENT initiatives on the June 5 ballot is about ready to reach the boiling point. To date, Props. 118 and 119 have been simmering on the back burner, with very little attention focused on these two IMPORTANT ballot measures...

...The Demos are already on the offensive, but something unusual is afoot. There is growing DISCONTENT among some Republicans who do NOT support #118, the Gary Flynn reapportionment plan. With its 2/3rds voting requirement for legislative approval of new districts, some GOPers see 118 as nothing more than an INCUMBENT PROTECTION scheme, without any real reform of the reapportionment process. As for the ETHICS provisions of 118, these same Republicans see it as window dressing to hide the remapping sections of the Flynn plan...

...The hostility toward 118 was most apparent at the recent Calif. Republican League endorsement convention in L.A. Despite assurances from CA GOP Party Chair Frank Visco, some Republicans expressed fear that the CRP and the GOP power elite might be MORE inclined to support 118 over 119, the Tom Huening plan, which would create a commission to oversee the remapping process. But paranoia runs deep...

...Compounding the distrust of the CA Republican Party by 119 supporters is the promise made by the CRP to help BOTH proposals by contributing about $250,000 to each. To date, only $50,000 has been turned over to each campaign. Visco says the rest of the money will have to come from the Republican Nat'l Cmt. because the CRP is short on funds...

...Money IS tight, especially for 118, which claims to be almost broke. 119 is in better shape. It is already on TV and on May 11 former President Ronald Reagan is going to be featured at a fundraising event ($250 p/p reception; $5,000 p/p luncheon) to aid 119. Funds from this event will translate into more TV ads. Another big event is set for May 21 featuring President George Bush, with the funds supposedly going for both 118 and 119...

...But paranoia isn't restricted to just one 1side. Democratic opponents of both measures are absolutely convinced that all this "POOR TALK" is just a sham. The Demos are scared silly that supporters of 118 and 119 will have all the money they need. And as for those stories by Visco and other GOP spin doctors that the Demos are sitting on a $5-7 million warchest, sources for NO on 118 & 119 say that at the present time, CASH ON HAND is only $600,000. CALPEEK will continually update this story until the election. Stay tuned...

58th A.D. UPDATE: NO FRONTRUNNER YET IN THIS PRIMARY TO REPLACE ASSEMBLYMAN BROWN. With the retirement of Assemblyman Dennis "Dr. NO" Brown(R) from this Orange County - Long Beach district, 5 credible Republicans are jockeying for position. Action in this primary started about 10 days ago and it promises to get hotter before June 5th. There are 2 Demos in the primary, but the interest is on the GOP side in this heavy Republican district...

...Three of the GOPers are local elected officials: Long Beach councilmembers Jan Hall and Jeffrey Kellogg; and Huntington Beach Mayor Tom Mays. These three have good built-in name ID within the area, especially Mays, who was all over the place when the tanker American Trader spilled oil onto local beaches earlier this year. The

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other two candidates, businessman/developer Peter von Elten and Dr. Seymour "Sy" Alban, will probably be the best funded of the primary rivals...

...Of the five, some sources believe Hall may be the long shot. She got trounced two years ago when she challenged Ernie Kell for Mayor of Long Beach (despite George Deukmejian's backing) and was left with a deficit. But she is PRO-CHOICE and the only GOP woman in the primary...

...Mays, who has hired The Wessell Co. and Gary Amo as consultants, is trying hard to stress ENVIRONMENT as his key issue. He is the only one of the 5 GOPers who is a solid PRO-LIFE candidate. The other Orange County candidate is von Elten, who is a PRO-CHOICE Republican. He is stressing law & order, having been named a local chair of the YES on #115 (Speedy Trial initiative) campaign. If he has a weakness, it's the negative of being a developer. But some insiders think he has a great future in politics. Dave Ellis & Scott Hart and Eileen Padberg are running his campaign...

...Kellogg is a genuine conservative, with a strong base in Long Beach. The Kellogg family is in the oil business, for which he has taken some heat, especially from Mays. Kellogg is opposed to abortion, but also is against any prohibitory laws. And he is the only one in the primary AGAINST Prop. #111, the gas tax measure. This could help him in the Orange Co. part of the 58th, where opposition to #111 is beginning to grow with an organized campaign. Some see Kellogg's chief primary rival as Mays, with both battling for the conservative vote. Allan Hoffenblum is Kellogg's consultant...

...In looking at the Alban campaign, one gets the impression that consultant Joe Shumate is trying to create an IMAGE rather than focus on specific issues, although the 65-year-old Alban is a strong PRO-CHOICE Republican. The image is one of trust and warmth, plus years of community service. On the downside, Alban's rivals will likely go after him as being in the hip pocket of the CA Medical Assn. which is making no secret of the fact they want Alban...

...Bottomline: no frontrunners just yet, but several may begin to emerge in the next two weeks. We'll update this race soon...

52nd A.D. UPDATE: FEW CAN PREDICT OUTCOME IN THIS CROWDED FIELD OF GOP CANDIDATES... This is the former Eastern L.A. County district of now State Sen. Frank Hill(R-Whittier). It is VERY safe GOP turf, which is why 8 Republicans are battling to replace Hill in Sacramento. There is no clear cut frontrunner as yet and most CALPEEK sources agree the GOP primary winner may not get much more than 25%...

...Four of the 8 GOP candidates have the funding to hire professional campaign management. These include local school board member Kenneth Manning(Bob Gouty and Stu Spencer); Diamond Bar Councilman Paul V. Horcher(Harvey Englander); former legislative staffer/consultant Tony Russo(Joe Shumate & Ray McNally); and environmental engineer Wil Baca(Parke Skelton)...

...Handicappers believe this group of candidates have the best shot at winning. The long shot NOT included in this group is ex Assemblyman Wayne Grisham(R). Grisham was defeated two years ago for reelection in the neighboring 63rd A.D., but still has fair name ID. However, most CALPEEK sources say they have seen little evidence of a credible Grisham effort so far. Most think Grisham is strapped for money...

...Of the four in the top tier, Baca is perhaps the most interesting. He's an environmentalist who has fought the expansion of the local landfill and is a board member of the Coalition for Clean Air. And he is the only one of the top tier who is PRO-CHOICE. The district itself is fairly conservative, so one might think Baca would have a tough time. But with the conservative vote perhaps being splintered, some think he has a shot...

...Is Sen. Frank Hill taking sides? So far, NO. But among the rest of the top tier, Hill has two close allies --- Horcher and Russo. Horcher went out on a limb to endorse Hill in the recent 31st S.D. special over fellow Diamond Bar Councilman Gary Miller. It has cost Horcher, because he is now persona non grata on the council. Yet he does have money and Englander knows how to wage a tough campaign. Russo actually ran the daily operation in Hill's recent campaign. Before that he was a top staffer to GOP Assemblyman Curt Pringle of Garden

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Grove. La Mirada is Russo's base and he has picked up some local endorsements from here (Mayor Lou Piltz and 2 councilmen). More important, Russo has backing from two key conservative assemblymembers - Dennis Brown and John Lewis. Lewis's wife is helping Russo on fundraising...

...Finally, there is Manning, whose father, Taggart, is running the daily operation. Manning is expected to have the most money by the time final reports are turned in and he has an impressive list of endorsements, including Diamond Bar Mayor Phyllis Papen, La Puente Mayor Max Ragland and former La Mirada Mayor Art Leslie. Assemblymembers Gil Ferguson and Phil Wyman are among the well known GOP types who have endorsed...

...Bottomline: this race has the potential to get nasty, with hits flying in all directions as the top tier battles for postion in this crowded field. CALPEEK will update this primary in a few weeks...

FULL METAL JACKET: WILL DUKE SIGN AB 1680?
A third major bill dealing with the overall subject of GUNS is now on Gov. George Deukmejian's desk. AB 1680 by Assemblyman Rusty Areias(D-Los Banos) would require first-time HANDGUN buyers to take a 2-4 hr. course on firearm safety and storage. The NRA fought this bill tooth & nail, while law enforcement groups battled for its passage...

...CALPEEK sources think the odds are about 50/50 this bill will become law. There are a number of factors at work which make this bill a key piece of legislation. While the safety aspects are important, this bill was amended to include CLEAN UP language for AB 497, the 15-day waiting period bill. Among other things, the clean up language specifically stops the CA Dept. of Justice from keeping gun registration/background info forms of persons who buy rifles and shotguns...

...FYI: Keep your eyes on SB 2050 by State Sen. Barry Keene(D-Vallejo) and Assemblyman Steve Peace(D-Chula Vista). This GUN bill would OVERTURN a recent CA Court of Appeals decision which says the CA Dept. of Justice DOESN'T have to do background checks on individuals who buy handguns. (Gray vs. S.F. Gun Exchange, January 1989). The NRA, Gun Owners of CA, CPOA and PORAC are ALL on the same side in FAVOR of passage. The bill also requires the CA Dept. of Mental Health to clean up their records and provide info to the DOJ upon request. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 1990: INCUMBENTS WITH FREE RIDES.
Editor's note: There are 12 CA State Assemblymembers, 3 CA State Senators and 3 U.S. House members who have what amounts to a free ride in the 1990 election, with either NO major primary opponent or NO major General Election opponent. In some cases there is opposition from third party candidates. Here's the list...

- CA Assembly - Hansen(R), Campbell(D), Burton(D), Eastin(D), Speier(D), Bronzan(D), Harvey(R), Wyman(R), Hughes(D), Tucker Jr.(D), Polanco(D) and Roybal-Allard(D)...

- CA Senate - Maddy(R), Watson(D) and Craven(R)...

- U.S. House - Lehman(D), Packard(R) and Hunter(R)...

CAMPAIGN 1990: SLATE MAILERS TAKING SHAPE.
A number of consultants are forming SLATE MAILERS for the June primary. In the past, consultants would distribute only ONE slate for each of the two yearly elections. But with so many people now voting by ABSENTEE BALLOT, some consultants (Barad & Levine) are now distributing TWO slates cards. Here is a brief list on consultants who are forming slates: Republicans - Tim Carey; Allan Hoffenblum; and Stu Mollrich (w/Bill Butcher & Arnold Forde); Democrats - Jill Barad (Barad and Levine); Berman & D'Agostino Campaigns; Clint Reilly (w/Whitehurst & Nelson); and probably Demo Assemblyman Willard Murray. There are other individuals and groups who are forming slates, but these consultants are the best known. Murray has been doing slates for more than 25 years...

ETHICS REFORM TOPIC OF L.A. GROUP MAY 30.
"Ethics Reform: What is it? Does L.A. need it?" is the topic of the May 30th meeting of L.A. Current Affairs Forum. The NewsMaker/NewsBreaker guests will be L.A. Councilman Michael Woo and Chip Jacobs of the L.A. Business Journal. 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner, Beverly Plaza Hotel, LA. For info, contact Emma Schafer at (213)445-8862...

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CAMPAIGN 1990: CA BALLOT MEASURE UPDATE. Editor's note: Here are some additional initiatives that have been given the green light to begin collecting signatures...

- All three initiatives supported by Demo AG John Van de Kamp have finished the circulation phase and now await to be counted to see if enough valid signatures have been collected. Odds are VERY high that all 3 will qualify for November's ballot...

- "Pest Eradication" is the official title of a statute by State Sen. Art Torres (D-L.A.) and Patricia Ann Prickett of Hacienda Heights. The measure is aimed at doing away with aerial spraying of malathion. Torres and Prickett have until Sept. 7 to collect 372,178 signatures. For info about the measure, (916)445-0820...

- "Private Property, Compensation for Public Use," is the official title of a constitutional amendment by Thomas Herman of Crescent City (707)464-3144. If approved, this measure would require cash compensation from the State general fund when State or local government action diminishes fair market value of private property by 20% or more. Deadline for submitting 595,485 valid signatures is Sept. 11...

- "Pesticide Regulation & Application," is the official title of an initiative statute by Oscar Singer of L.A. (213)263-2640. It is similar to the Torres-Prickett measure, in that its objective is to ban the use of certain pesticides without the written permission of the property owner. Sept. 11 is the deadline for submitting 372,178 signatures...

- "Firearms Regulation" is the official title of an initiative statute by Kevin Patterson of Camino (916)644-4125. If okayed, this proposal would require a vote of the people to confirm any new laws, regulations or judicial rules relating to firearms. Patterson has until Sept. 20 to collect 372,178 valid signatures...

CAMPAIGN 1990: CONSULTANTS' SCORECARD. Editor's note: Here's a brief rundown on consultants and campaigns...

- News media relations consultant Karin Caves is on temporary duty from Assemblyman Terry Friedman's Sacto office to work the NO on 118 & 119 campaign with BAD Campaigns in L.A. (213)659-6154...

- Covina-based political consultant Bob Gouty has been hired to run Undersheriff Dick William's campaign for Sheriff of San Bernardino County. Consultant Chris Nelson is running former Sheriff's Capt. Charles Callahan's campaign in that race; and consultant Tim Carey is running the campaign of the third major contender, Chief U.S. Dep. Marshal Sam Cicchino...

- Doug Yoakam hangs up his consultant's shield and has returned to work for GOP Assemblyman Bill Filante of San Rafael...

- McElroy Communications of Sacto has been signed by CA Common Cause to do an independent campaign on behalf of Prop. 112, the Legislative ethics referendum...

- The Orange Co. consulting firm of Adler-Wilson has taken over most of the campaign chores for incumbent Long Beach Mayor Ernie Kell...

- Consultant Harvey Englander is managing GOP Assemblywoman Sunny Mojonnier's reelection campaign in San Diego...

CA INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS DEBATE MAY 15. The Commonwealth Club of CA is sponsoring two Insurance Commissioner candidate's debates, both on May 15. In San Rafael, Dominican College, 11 a.m. debate, 12:30 p.m. lunch with candidates; and at 4:45 p.m. at the Nikko Hotel in S.F. Candidates taking part are Demos Michael Blanco, Ray Bourhis, Conway Collis and Walter Zelman. GOPers are Wes Bannister and Tom Skornia. For info (415)543-3353...

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